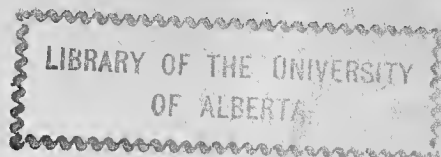


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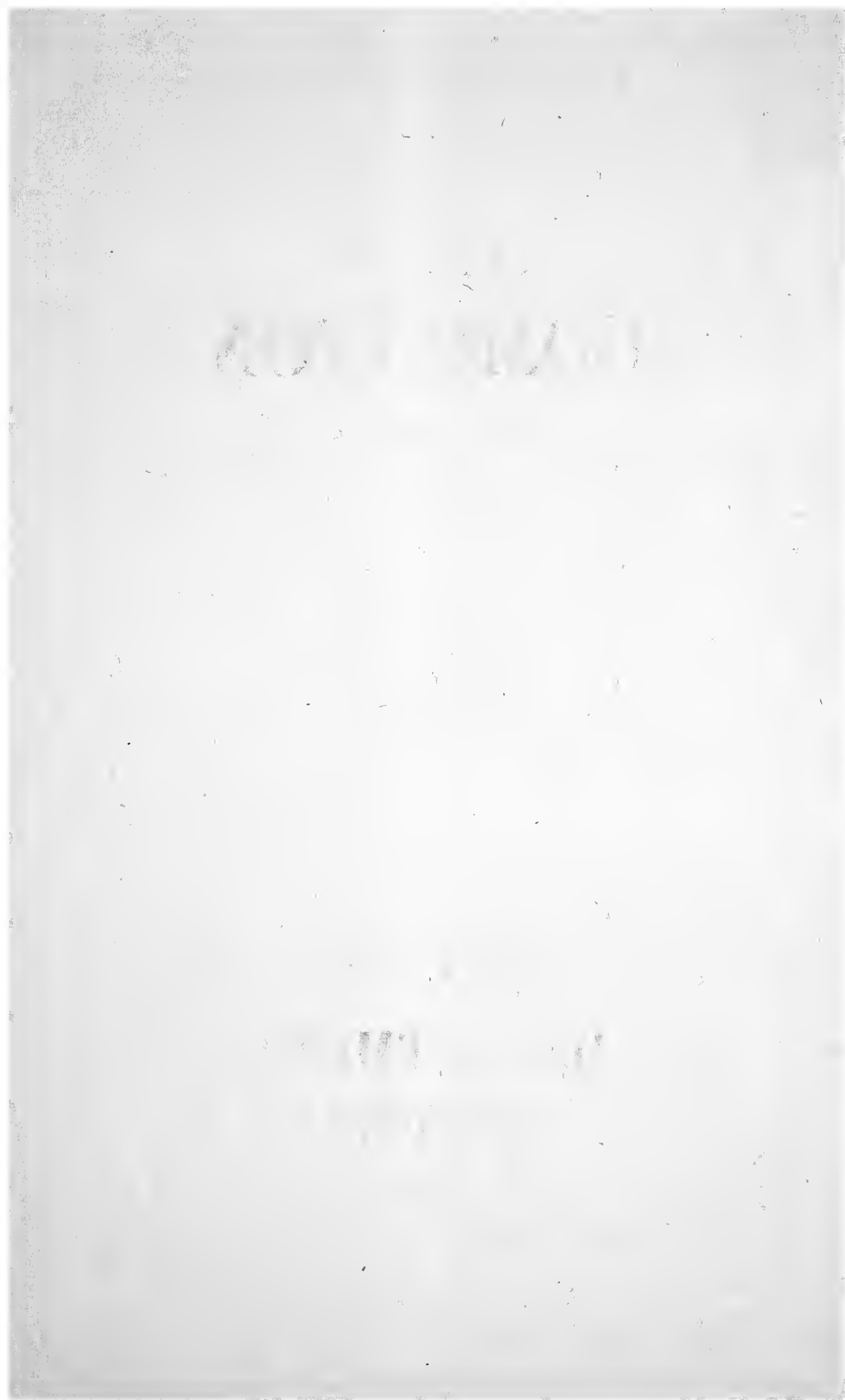
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GOVERNMENT  
PUBLICATIONS

# CITY OF EDMONTON ALBERTA



## HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT 1921



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**CITY OF  
EDMONTON  
ALBERTA**



**HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT  
REPORT  
1921**

## STAFF, 1921

Medical Officer of Health, T. H. Whitelaw, B.A., M.B.

Chief Health Inspector .....	S. A. Main
Health Inspector .....	R. T. Anderson
Chief Sanitary Inspector .....	W. R. Graham
Sanitary Inspector .....	J. M. Highet, R.P.C., A.I.S.E.
	G. Howland
	J. H. Blackburn
Chief Food Inspector .....	L. H. Swail, V.S.
Food Inspector .....	T. E. Lord
Milk Inspector and Chemist .....	H. C. Graham, B.A.
Dairy Inspector .....	C. Ellinger
Accountant .....	Miss B. B. Murray
Stenographer .....	Miss E. M. Luckwell
Nurse .....	Miss O. B. Bailey

## REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS

For the Year ending December 31st, 1921

### REVENUE

Inspection Fees .....	\$ 369.00
Cemetery, Sale of Graves, and Fees .....	2,236.00
Influenza Epidemic (collections) .....	69.80
	\$ 2,674.80
Balance Cost of Operation for 1921 .....	30,609.38
	\$33,284.18

### EXPENDITURE

Salaries .....	\$23,868.52
Printing, Postage and Stationery .....	711.58
Transportation .....	3,750.17
Telephones .....	135.15
Uniforms .....	279.96
Disinfection and Quarantine .....	1,473.22
Cow and Dairy Inspection .....	95.76
Cemetery Expenses .....	2,645.76
Burial of Paupers .....	114.00
Miscellaneous .....	210.06
	\$33,284.18

CITY OF EDMONTON  
OFFICE OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Edmonton, Alberta

August 1st, 1922.

MESSRS. THE COMMISSIONERS,  
City.

Gentlemen:—The following report for the year ending December 31st, 1921, is respectfully submitted.

There has been during the year a continuation of the unusual prevalence of the more serious infections, particularly Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, though one of the minor infections, Mumps, is responsible for nearly half of the number of cases.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital numbered 906 as compared with 742 in 1920, and 370 during 1919. The patients admitted, by months, were:

Patients Admitted by Months

January .....	96
February .....	90
March .....	93
April .....	99
May .....	59
June .....	85
July .....	58
August .....	49
September .....	49
October .....	77
November .....	73
December .....	78
Total	906

The highest total for a month was 99 in April, the lowest 49 for August and September when infectious disease incidence reached the lowest point during the year.

Patients Classified as to the Disease Admitted During the Year

Scarlet Fever .....	383
Scarlet Fever suspect .....	3
Diphtheria .....	309
Diphtheria suspect .....	2
Paralysis following Diphtheria .....	1
Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria .....	45
Smallpox .....	127
Vaccinated Mothers admitted with infants affected with Smallpox .....	2
Tuberculosis of Lungs .....	14
Chickenpox .....	4
Erysipelas .....	10
Rheumatism (employee) .....	1
Scabies .....	5
Total	906

Of the Diphtheria cases one had Measles, two had Chickenpox, and two were mentally defective cases from the Institute for Feeble-minded Children. Forty-five cases admitted were found to be affected with both Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, many of which had both conditions when admitted. The difficulties involved in dealing with cases of double infection and preventing cross-infection of others in a hospital where there are practically no individual wards, are such as to make cross-infection inevitable during periods when epidemic conditions of several diseases co-exist. Such difficulties accentuate the absolute necessity of providing a better and more satisfactory Isolation Hospital at the earliest possible date. Overcrowding, which in any hospital is bad, is in an Isolation Hospital a crime, and there is no doubt that many complications, double infections, and return cases during the abnormal preva-

lence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, for the last two years, have been due to the lack of proper and adequate Isolation Hospital facilities.

All of the available beds in the Hospital were required during the year for Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, and as a result none of the minor infections, such as Measles, could be admitted.

During November and December, extra hospital accommodation for the Diphtheria cases was secured for this purpose by the use of South Hall Hospital to which 32 patients were admitted. The five cases of Scabies were from among the unemployed relief cases in December and were admitted to the Smallpox building for treatment, there having been no Smallpox cases in the city for some time.

During the year there were 38 deaths, which gives a death rate of 4.2 per cent. in relation to the 906 patients admitted. Diphtheria, of which many cases were admitted in a very serious condition, not having been treated with anti-toxin early enough, furnishes the bulk of the deaths, or 23 out of 38.

#### Deaths and Rate Are As Follows

	Deaths	No. of Cases	Death Rate
Diphtheria .....	23	309	7.4%
Scarlet Fever .....	6	383	1.6%
Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria ....	5	45	11. %
Tuberculosis of Lungs .....	4	16	28. %

It is to be noted that Scarlet Fever uncomplicated by Diphtheria had a fatality rate of only 1.6 per cent., while associated with Diphtheria, of which there were 45 cases, its fatality rate was 11 per cent. The death rate of Tuberculosis is necessarily high as usually only very advanced cases apply for admission.

#### Communicable Diseases Reported During the Year

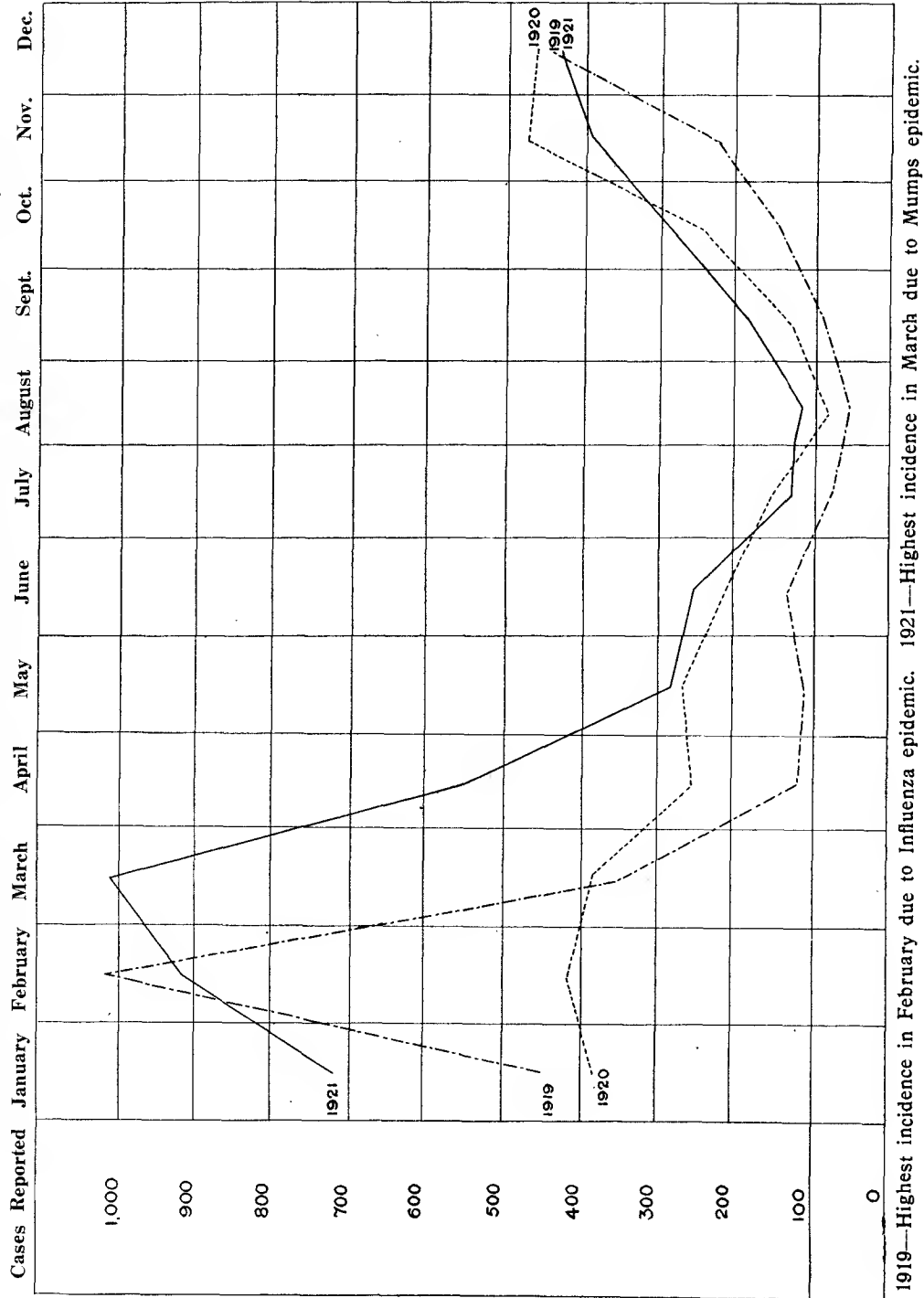
	City Cases	Outside Cases	Total
Smallpox .....	155	18	173
Scarlet Fever .....	708	11	719
Diphtheria .....	579	18	597
Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria .....	57	4	61
Chickenpox .....	876	0	876
Mumps .....	2,381	0	2,381
Measles .....	417	0	417
Typhoid Fever .....	6	14	20
Tuberculosis .....	14	8	22
Whooping Cough .....	24	0	24
Erysipelas .....	13	0	13
Totals	5,227	73	5,300

The above very large total for the year is largely contributed to by Chickenpox and Mumps, both of which, especially Mumps, were epidemic. Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever were also more than usually prevalent throughout the year, showing a tendency to decrease during the summer months of July and August, and a gradual increase during the fall months.

#### Communicable Disease Reported by Months

	1921	1920	1919
January .....	721	396	461
February .....	919	410	1,017
March .....	1,006	387	355
April .....	549	255	117
May .....	284	269	108
June .....	252	203	137
July .....	139	154	85
August .....	120	85	53
September .....	188	130	95
October .....	295	240	143
November .....	394	473	222
December .....	436	461	444
	5,303	3,463	3,237

CURVES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE REPORTED PER MONTH FOR 1919, 1920, 1921



From the above monthly returns it is evident that the curve of incidence of infectious diseases rises during the winter months and declines during the summer, reaching its lowest point in August of each year. This indicates clearly that the indoor life in the home, necessitated by our climatic conditions, the attendance of our children at school largely during the months of colder weather, associated with artificial heating and in some cases overcrowding, and poor ventilation, greatly increases the factor of personal contact of individual with individual, which is now known to be practically the only method of disease transmission of the ordinary infectious diseases. This factor of personal contact, combined with general lowering of vitality, poor economic conditions and, quite independent of local conditions, the increased prevalence of infectious disease for the last three years throughout the greater part of the civilized world, explains largely the unusually high incidence of infectious disease in our city recently, in the control of which the lack of a fully modern and adequate Isolation Hospital was so serious a handicap.

The assumption that outdoor insanitary conditions in our city have been responsible to any appreciable degree for the prevalence of infectious disease is not sustained by the comparatively low incidence of disease during the warm months of the year, at which time alone such conditions could possibly adversely affect the community, and if so would be likely to cause Typhoid Fever, which has been conspicuously absent for many years.

While it is of great importance that untidy and outside insanitary conditions should be as far as possible corrected, such special stress should not be put on those conditions as a direct causation of infectious disease, as to cause much more important matters to be overlooked or neglected, namely personal contact, overcrowding, poor housing and hygienic conditions, and general lowering of living conditions due to higher cost of necessities and lack of steady employment.

#### TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases reported was 22, of which 14 were city cases and 8 from outside the city. The fact that 20 deaths, two less than the number reported, are recorded as being due to Tuberculosis, is an indication of how imperfect the reporting of this disease is. Apparently only advanced cases are being reported, and these mostly are those admitted to the Isolation Hospital where 14 of the 22 cases reported were treated, 4 of whom died. Of those reported outside the Hospital, there were apparently only eight (8) cases, while the deaths occurring were 16 or double the number of cases reported.

#### SMALLPOX

The Smallpox epidemic, which had been more or less continuous since November, 1919, came to an end in the month of October, 1921. No further cases occurred during the last two months. The general prevalence of the disease in the country surrounding Edmonton accounted for there being, at frequent intervals, fresh outbreaks in the city which were vigorously dealt with by quarantine, disinfection, and especially vaccination of contacts or persons exposed who were unprotected by vaccination. Of 173 cases of Smallpox reported during the year only 17 had at any time been vaccinated successfully and these were all over 30 years of age. Although there were many very severe and confluent types of the disease, fortunately no deaths occurred during the year. Over 300 vaccinations were made at the office and also many unvaccinated and unprotected persons at the schools and throughout the city were given the protection of vaccination, which contributed largely in bringing the epidemic to an end, and greatly lessened the number of cases.

#### TYPHOID FEVER

During the year there were 20 cases of Typhoid Fever of which 14 were from outside the city. Four (4) deaths occurred, only one of which was a city case, giving a death rate for Edmonton city of less than 2 per 100,000 of population, (1.6 per 100,000), a very low rate.

#### SCARLET FEVER

Scarlet Fever continued throughout the year, subsiding only during the summer months, reaching the minimum in August and September. There were 719 cases reported as compared with 623 for 1920 and 328 for 1919. There were 14 deaths of which 3 were from those outside the city coming in for treatment, leaving 11 as the city deaths. The death rate, therefore, of the city cases is 11 from 708 cases, or 1.5%, a slightly lower rate than for



1920. The difficulty of controlling this disease was greatly increased by the insufficient and unsatisfactory accommodation provided by our present Isolation Hospital, and the very mild type of the disease which affected many to so slight a degree, that cases were very apt to be overlooked or go untreated by physicians, while unknown necessarily to the Health Department, they were disseminating the disease in our community and especially in our schools. That the death rate was only 1.5% is an indication of the mildness of the type of the disease in the majority of cases.

#### DIPHTHERIA

The cases reported numbered 597, of which 18 were from outside the city limits. This is a large increase over the number for 1920, when 337 cases were reported with 17 fatalities, a death rate of 5%. From the 579 city cases there were 33 deaths, giving a somewhat higher rate of 5.7% for the year 1921. Many of these deaths could have been prevented had anti-toxin treatment been given in time. The failure to call physicians early is responsible for this in a number of cases. Of 18 cases brought in from the country 4 died, a death rate of 22%. The introduction of the Schick test and the new toxin-anti-toxin treatment became available towards the end of the year, but it was not considered an opportune time to make it compulsory, though it would without doubt, if carried out generally, greatly lower the prevalence of this dread disease. It is now, however, possible for those who voluntarily desire to procure the treatment through private physicians or the Health Department and it will in all probability be used in institutions where a large number of susceptible children are kept, such as the Children's Shelter. In case Diphtheria continues to be as prevalent as it has been recently it will be advisable to encourage the use of this new treatment among all our school children.

#### MEASLES

There were 417 cases of Measles reported during the year, of which 217 occurred in December, the last month, when it became epidemic. Fortunately no deaths were recorded as being directly due to Measles. During the previous year, 1920, there were 998 cases with 3 deaths.

#### WHOOPING COUGH

During the year this disease was very slightly prevalent. There were 24 cases reported with no deaths, as compared with 449 cases with 27 deaths in 1920.

#### ERYSIPELAS

Of this disease only 13 cases were reported during the year, with no fatalities, as compared with 18 in 1920 and 4 deaths.

#### INFLUENZA

This disease continued during 1921 to diminish gradually. There were 13 deaths ascribed to it as compared with 55 in 1920.

#### Death Rates of Citizens from the More Important Contagious or Infectious Conditions

Year	Cases	Deaths	Rate 100,000 Popula'n	% of Cases
Typhoid Fever—				
1919 .....	23	3	5.5	13
1920 .....	18	2	3.	11
1921 .....	6	1	1.6	16
Scarlet Fever—				
1919 .....	328	9	15.	2.74
1920 .....	623	10	15.4	1.6
1921 .....	708	11	17.	1.5
Diphtheria—				
1919 .....	80	7	11.6	8.7
1920 .....	337	17	26.	5.0
1921 .....	579	33	52.	5.7
Measles—				
1919 .....	373	2	3.33	.53
1920 .....	998	3	4.6	.53
1921 .....	417	0	0.0	0.0

## CITY OF EDMONTON

**Whooping Cough—**

Year	Cases	Deaths	Rate 100.000 Popula'n	% of Cases
1919 .....	146	1	1.66	.7
1920 .....	449	27	41.5	6.
1921 .....	24	0	0.0	0.0

**Tuberculosis of Lungs (Not All Reported).**

	City Cases	Outside Cases	Total	Deaths
1919 .....	16	21	37	37
1920 .....	18	10	28	20
1921 .....	14	8	22	20

Though it is evident many cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs are not promptly reported, the comparatively small total of deaths recorded indicates that our city and district have fewer cases than most cities of Canada. Few cases originate here, the great majority being imported cases from outside our province. The Provincial Sanitarium at Bowness provided accommodation for a number of city cases during the year.

**Vital Statistics**

Year	Population	Deaths	Rate per 1000
1918 .....	60,000 (estimated)	890	15.
1919 .....	60,000 (estimated)	614	10.2
1920 .....	65,000 (estimated)	661	10.17
1921 .....	60,000 (Census)	556	9.26

The above calculations are based on the deaths of citizens only and exclude all deaths of non-citizens or non-residents which occurred here. The death rates have been, especially in 1918, increased by the effect of the Influenza, which has persisted in gradually lessening degree ever since. With the exception of 1918, the death rate is comparatively low.

**Births—**

Year	Population	Births	Rate per 1000
1918 .....	60,000 (estimated)	1,847	31.
1919 .....	60,000 (estimated)	1,773	29.5
1920 .....	65,000 (estimated)	2,339	36.
1921 .....	60,000 (Census)	2,161	36.

**Marriages—**

Year	Number
1918 .....	737
1919 .....	1,006
1920 .....	1,162
1921 .....	1,079

**Infant Mortality—**

Year	Deaths under 1 Year	Total Deaths	Per Cent	Total Births	Rate per 1,000 Births
1918 .....	193	890	21.7	1,858	100.4
1919 .....	189	823	23.	1,773	106.
1920 .....	227	661	34.2	2,339	97.
1921 .....	165	556	29.	2,161	76.

By monthly returns the deaths of infants, the births, and the mortality rate per year for each month are as follows:

Month	Deaths	Births	Mortality Rate 1000 Births
January .....	17	159	107.
February .....	21	178	118.
March .....	12	204	58.8
April .....	16	178	89.
May .....	16	172	93.
June .....	11	174	63.
July .....	9	166	54.2
August .....	16	231	69.2
September .....	13	175	74.3
October .....	18	209	86.1
November .....	7	157	44.6
December .....	9	158	57.

(\*Average rate per year.)

Totals

165

2,161

\* 76.

The remarkably low rate for two winter months, November and December, is very exceptional. A specially high rate in the hot months of summer is not in evidence but January and February appear to be the months attended by the highest infantile mortality.

The causes of death of the 165 infants who died were as follows, from the highest to the lowest:

Prematurity .....	36
Malnutrition, Marasmus, Inanition or Debility .....	24
Enteritis or Gastro-Intestinal Diarrhœa .....	20
Pneumonia .....	10
Broncho-Pneumonia .....	9
Conditions peculiar to new-born .....	8
Accident of Birth .....	8
Congenital Malformation .....	6
Hæmorrhage .....	6
Convulsions .....	5
Meningitis .....	3
Influenza .....	3
Hæmophilia .....	3
Acute Bronchitis .....	2
Congenital Diseases .....	2
Syphilis .....	2
Scarlet Fever .....	2
Heart Disease .....	2
Abortion .....	2
Hydrocephalus .....	1
Measles .....	1
Status Lymphaticus .....	1
Endocarditis .....	1
Meningeal Adhesions .....	1
Heat Stroke and Shock .....	1
Spina Bifida .....	1
Defective Nutrition .....	1
Intestinal Obstruction .....	1
Cerebral Tumor .....	1
Otitis Media .....	1
Intestinal Indigestion .....	1

Total 165

It is to be noted that Prematurity, as a cause of infantile mortality, occupies first place, no less than 36 of the 165 deaths or over 20 per cent., being ascribed to it. The next highest cause of mortality, or 24 cases, is malnutrition, marasmus, and other terms signifying a weak debilitated or diseased condition of the child dating from birth, due largely to poor health, over-work, disease, or lack of proper knowledge of, or adequate means to provide properly for, her condition, on the part of the mother.

In addition to the above two highest causes of infantile mortality, we find 32 infants' deaths ascribed to various causes more or less related to the condition of the mother's health, i.e., accidents of birth, conditions peculiar to the new-born, congenital malformation or disease, convulsions, etc.

It is thus evident that 92 cases of the 165 infants who died were due to or connected with the condition of the mother's health and indicates the great value to be derived from any measures which are directed to pre-natal care of the mother. During the year a Child Welfare Nurse was appointed by the Board of Health for three months beginning July 1st and later on her services were made permanent. Her work as visiting nurse to mothers, prospective or otherwise, is the most satisfactory and efficient method of attacking the infantile mortality problem and I have no hesitation in advising that an additional nurse could be employed in this work with great advantage. This work of the Child Welfare Nurse is carried on in close relation to the Provincial Baby Clinic, to which all mothers are invited to bring their children under the school age for advice and examination. There is no doubt that the lowering of the infantile mortality rate during the latter months of the year was very largely contributed to by the service given by this Clinic and the visits to the homes by the Child Welfare Nurse. The splendid service given by the medical men who conduct this Clinic should be suitably recognized by an honorarium at the end of each year.

Unsatisfactory features of this report are the large number of illegitimates born and of still-born children which are not recorded as births or deaths. In reference to the question of illegitimacy, attention should be called to the fact that there were 91 illegitimate births during the year of whom 18 died, giving the very high mortality rate of 199 per 1,000 births among this class of infants. Naturally, as practically all these babies are bottle fed, it is to be expected that the death rate would be high and adversely affect the general mortality rate. Nevertheless, it is necessary that special attention should be given to the conditions under which these unfortunates are kept in the various nursing homes in our city. In addition to the births recorded there were 95 still-borns, which fact represents a serious loss of life and indicates the value of pre-natal care of the mothers and the necessity for extension of our Child Welfare nursing service.

#### Summary of Statistics

Area of city (including 1,000 acres water), acres .....	27,520
Population (census), approximately .....	60,000
Persons per acre of land .....	2.26
Natural increase (excess of births over deaths) .....	1,605
Rate of increase per 1,000 population .....	26.75
Still births .....	95
Births, excluding still births .....	2,161
Birth rate per 1,000 of population .....	36
Deaths (excluding still-born) .....	556
Death rate per 1,000 population .....	9.26
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age .....	165
Infantile mortality rate (infants deaths per 1,000 of births) .....	76
Marriages .....	1,080
Rate per 1,000 of population .....	18

#### Scavenging and General Sanitation

The conditions dependent on a proper operation of the Scavenging and Street Cleaning Department have not shown the improvement over the previous year which had been anticipated, owing largely probably to the curtailment of the funds necessary to give a more satisfactory service. There are by actual computation some 5,138 outhouses in the city, of which 3,156 are an absolute necessity, there being no sewer and water service possible or available at present. The balance, or 1,982, exist in direct contravention of our sewer and water by-law and should be eliminated as rapidly as possible. The difficulties in the way of the rigid enforcement of this by-law are:

1. The small and limited capacity of many habitations, together with the flimsy construction, make it impossible to instal sewer and water without extensive alterations to provide the necessary room and proper protection against frost.
2. The unreasonably high cost of installation of plumbing fixtures since the war is prohibitive to many who are not financially in a position to undertake any large expenditure at present.
3. The scarcity of houses, which limits the power of the Health Department to placard, as insanitary, houses where sewer and water installation is lacking.
4. The present policy of the city administration which is opposed to installing sewer and water as a local improvement, to be repaid in a term of years as taxes.

Many of the outhouses of our city require alterations, repairs or replacement and a vigorous campaign is to be inaugurated to improve conditions in this respect. An efficient night scavenging service must also be maintained continuously. The further extensions of sewer and water facilities to parts of our city at present unsupplied should be carried out as rapidly as possible, but there should be some assurance that installation of these services will be proceeded with, by the residents affected, as soon as these extensions are made.

#### Incinerators

Provision should be made as soon as possible for a new incinerator, as the one located at Rat Creek is rapidly depreciating in spite of recent expenditures to keep it operating efficiently. Many complaints have been made by residents of the vicinity of annoyance resulting from its inefficient operation during the year and legal action has been threatened.

As the bulk of material to be consumed is derived from the business districts of the city, a more central location, preferably at or near the present Power Plant, should be considered when a new and up-to-date plant is established. This, under proper management, would not be any nuisance, and could be operated as an auxiliary to the Power Plant much more economically and efficiently than independently and separately.

#### City Water Supply

Very few complaints were received during the year of the city water, which at all times has, as a result of efficient filtration and chlorination, shown a low bacterial count. In certain localities, where there are dead ends of water pipes and a limited number of services, an accumulation of chlorine takes place affecting the taste of the water, which can be remedied only by flushing out the pipes at intervals. All complaints of this nature are brought to the attention of the Superintendent of the Waterworks. There is no justification whatever for the rumors circulated from time to time that certain diseases are caused by our city water supply. Moreover, Edmonton had, last year, only one death from Typhoid Fever, which gives a death rate per 100,000 population of less than 2, a remarkably low death rate, comparatively speaking.

#### Police and Fire Department Applications

The following number of applicants for city departments were examined as to their physical fitness:

Fire Department .....	10
Police Department .....	6

#### Medical Relief

In co-operation with the Welfare Board, many cases of relief have been visited and treated at the office. During the months of November and December a large number of cases of minor illnesses among the unemployed were examined and treated at the Health Department office. Any cases of serious nature were sent to the Hospital. All cases claiming to be exempted from work on account of physical weakness or illness, were referred to the Medical Officer of Health for report to the City Employment Office.

#### Food and Milk Inspection

Full reports on food and milk inspection are to be found in the attached reports of the Food and Dairy Inspectors.

It is expected the tuberculin testing of all cows will be shortly undertaken through the co-operation of the Dominion authorities. The importance of this work cannot be over-estimated both from the standpoint of public health and the welfare of the live stock industry of the province. In the absence of complete tuberculin testing of all cows supplying our public milk supply, the only effectual safeguard against tuberculosis infection is to use milk which has been pasteurized. Fortunately the bulk of our public milk supply has for some years been subjected to pasteurization.

In concluding this report, it may be justifiable to point out that it has been the fixed policy of the Health Department to give as far as possible a complete statement each month of all cases of infectious disease which occur, including the minor and less dangerous diseases. As a result our total of infectious cases reported may, in comparison with some other cities where minor diseases are not so fully reported, appear to be inordinately high. A better and more reliable basis of comparison would be the death rates of various cities from the different diseases rather than the actual number of cases reported by the Health Departments.

During the year the most satisfactory co-operation and assistance have been given the officials of the Health Department by all other Departments and organizations, whose work is more or less related to Health service, particularly the Medical Department and teachers of the School Board, the Board of Public Welfare, the Provincial Clinic, Victorian Order of Nurses, Red Cross, Hospital Board, Scavenging Department, and the medical men of the city generally.

The addition of two Sanitary Inspectors and the Child Welfare Nurse has greatly increased the possibility of rendering an efficient Health Department service, and it is hoped to secure a greater degree of co-operation and assistance from the public generally in carrying out all Health Regulations and By-Laws, which are to the advantage of the whole community.

Respectfully submitted,

T. H. WHITELAW,  
Medical Officer of Health.

**REPORT OF THE CITY HEALTH NURSE**

DR. T. H. WHITELAW,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
City.

Dear Sir:—I beg to submit the report of the City Health Nurse from July 1st, 1921, to December 31st, 1921.

At the First of July, 1921, a nurse was appointed to the City Health Department whose duty is to do Child Welfare work, to answer calls which come to the City Health Department for a nurse, and also to give advice to pre-natal cases and others who feel they cannot always afford to call in the family doctor when the case is not really serious.

It has taken some time to get the work established and for the public to know that a nurse from the City Health Department is available and will come when called upon.

During the 6 months, 855 visits were made. In many cases several visits to the same family have been necessary.

**Number of Deaths of Babies under One (1) Year of Age  
From July 1st to December 31st, 1921**

July .....	10
August .....	16
September .....	16
October .....	16
November .....	8
December .....	9

The majority of the deaths have been pre-mature babies or congenital defectives.

The nurse also co-operates with the Provincial Health Nurses who are in charge of the Child Welfare Clinics which are held every Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 2 to 4 o'clock.

These Clinics were held in Room 405 and 406 of the Williamson Building, but during December were moved to Room 604 of the Civic Block as more space was required.

The mothers bring their babies and pre-school children to the Clinics where they are weighed, measured, and examined by the doctors who are children's specialists. Advice is given but where treatment is necessary they are referred to their family doctor.

Several needy families have been assisted during the cold weather and supplied through the kindness of friends and the Ladies' Aid of First Baptist Church with warm clothing for babies and children.

Respectfully submitted,

O.B. BAILEY,  
City Health Nurse.

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**

DR. T. H. WHITELAW,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:—I beg to submit the following report of the sanitary work of the Department for the year ending December 31st, 1921.

Number of complaints received from the public .....	572
Number of complaints received, unfounded or rectified prior to inspection .....	68
Number of complaints referred to other Departments ..	129
Number of complaints received from other Departments ..	14
Number of complaints referred to Mullen & Carruthers ..	22
Verbal and written notices issued for the abatement of nuisances:—	
To repair plumbing .....	69
To clean plumbing .....	49
To instal plumbing .....	89
To remove or repair privies .....	14
To provide pits for privies .....	189
To make privies accessible to scavengers .....	15
To provide new privies .....	15
To remove dead animals .....	4

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

13

To remove manure .....	96
To remove garbage .....	17
To remove poultry from dwelling .....	25
To remove poultry house .....	5
To remove cattle corral .....	1
To remove refuse .....	24
To remove decaying potatoes .....	2
To remove water from basement .....	1
To remove hogs from within city limits .....	2
To remove goats from within city limits .....	1
To remove cats .....	1
To remove dogs from apartment block .....	2
To remove garbage and ashes .....	17
To remove water from elevator pit .....	1
To provide ash and garbage cans .....	328
To provide heat in apartment blocks .....	3
To provide lavatory accommodation .....	1
To provide privy accommodation .....	15
To provide manure bins .....	188
To apply for Dairy license .....	3
To apply for permit to keep hogs .....	16
To apply for permit to keep cows .....	24
To apply for permit to keep fox .....	2
To clean apartment block .....	1
To clean privies .....	2
To clean premises .....	21
To clean basement .....	10
To clean vacant lot .....	4
To clean and repair cesspool .....	1
To clean poultry houses .....	2
To clean yards .....	97
To cease throwing out slops on streets and lanes .....	24
To cease picketting stock .....	1
To cease dumping refuse in yard .....	12
To cease overcrowding in dwellings .....	5
To cease dumping refuse on public land .....	2
To cease burning manure .....	6
To cease burning butcher's refuse .....	3
To abate dust nuisance .....	1
To abate nuisance from sewer gas .....	5
To abate nuisance from smoke (Apartment Block) .....	3
To abate spitting nuisance in Apartment Block .....	1
To turn water on plumbing fixtures .....	2
To ventilate lavatory .....	6
To clean choked sewer .....	1
To destroy old bedding .....	24
To vacate insanitary premises .....	5
To connect swill-room with sewer .....	1
To disinfect shed and stable .....	1
To repair drain .....	1
To partition off Water Closet from living room .....	1
To repair garbage chute .....	2
To repair and drain stable .....	1
To clean and repair cesspool .....	1
No. of Barber Shops recommended for license .....	78
No. of Barber Shops refused license .....	2
No. of Billiard Halls, Bowling Alleys and Pool Rooms recommended for license .....	30
No. of Billiard Halls, etc., refused license .....	1
No. of Dance Halls recommended for license .....	1
No. of Shacks and Tents recommended for license .....	2
No. of Yard Hydrant permits granted .....	121
No. of Hog permits granted .....	63
No. of Bath Houses recommended for license .....	6
No. of Apartment Blocks and Rooming Houses inspected .....	98
No. of insanitary buildings placarded under Section 125 of the Public Health Act .....	5

Sixteen water samples were taken during the year, six of which were found to be unfit for domestic use. Notices were issued to parties using these wells, giving the particulars regarding the report received from the Provincial Laboratory, and placards were placed on the wells.

Information was laid in 14 instances for breaches of By-Laws, two of which were withdrawn on parties giving assurance that work would be executed without delay. Twelve convictions were obtained.

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. GRAHAM,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF FOOD INSPECTOR

DR. T. H. WHITELOW,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:—I beg to submit the following report on the work of Food Inspection for the year ending December 31st, 1921.

The regular inspection of premises and food-stuffs in restaurants, hotel kitchens, bakeries, meat markets, groceries, fruit and confectionery stores and city markets has been carried on during the year.

The following is a summary of the work done during the past year by this branch of the Department:

No. of inspections made .....	8,155
No. of Restaurants recommended for license .....	108
No. of Restaurants not recommended for license .....	7
No. of Candy and Ice Cream Parlors recommended for license .....	453
No. of Candy and Ice Cream Parlors not recommended for license .....	2
No. of Butcher Shops recommended for license .....	94
No. of Bake Shops not recommended for license .....	2
No. of Fish Shops recommended for license .....	4
No. of Fruit and Vegetable Wagons recommended for license .....	20

#### Meat Inspections

No. of quarters of Beef .....	12,738
No. of carcasses of Hogs .....	4,413 $\frac{1}{4}$
No. of carcasses of Mutton .....	3,931 $\frac{3}{4}$
No. of carcasses of Veal .....	3,680 $\frac{1}{8}$
No. of carcasses of Goats .....	3
No. of ribs of Beef .....	4

#### List of Meat Inspected and Condemned:

No. of portions of Beef condemned .....	190
No. of portions of Hogs condemned .....	227
No. of portions of Mutton condemned .....	200
No. of portions of Veal condemned .....	16
No. of carcasses of Beef condemned .....	13
No. of carcasses of Hogs condemned .....	16
No. of carcasses of Veal condemned .....	41 2-3
No. of carcasses of Goats condemned .....	1
No. of quarters of Beef condemned .....	5

#### Meat Inspected and Rejected

No. of carcasses of Hogs rejected .....	33 $\frac{1}{2}$
No. of carcasses of Beef rejected .....	11
No. of carcasses of Veal rejected .....	18
No. of carcasses of Goats rejected .....	1
No. of quarters of Beef rejected .....	18

#### List of Food-Stuffs Condemned

Beef .....	13,030 lbs.
Pork .....	5,508 lbs.



Mutton .....	394 lbs.
Veal .....	4,924 lbs.
Goat .....	65 lbs.
Fish .....	139 lbs.
Fowl .....	46 lbs.
Fruit .....	2,876 lbs.
Vegetables .....	2,086 lbs.
Canned Goods .....	5,622 lbs.
Flour .....	100 lbs.
Butter .....	785 lbs.
Sundries .....	1,394 lbs.

Total 36,951 lbs.

#### Prosecutions

Two butchers were prosecuted for offering for sale meat not bearing either the federal, provincial, or city stamp of approval; fines of \$20.00 and costs on the two cases being imposed.

One butcher was fined \$5.00 and costs for slaughtering in premises not approved by the City Board of Health.

One delivery man was fined \$10.00 and costs for carrying meat through the city streets not so covered as to protect it from dust, dirt and flies.

One baker was fined \$50.00 and costs for light-weight bread.

Three restaurant keepers were prosecuted for having their premises in a dirty condition, fines totalling \$40.00 being imposed.

One baker's delivery man was fined \$1.00 and costs for handling bread in an uncleanly manner.

Respectfully submitted,

L. H. SWAIL, V. S.,

Chief Food Inspector.

#### REPORT OF THE CITY MILK INSPECTOR

DR. T. H. WHITELAW,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:—I beg to submit the following report on the work of milk inspection for the year ending December 31st, 1921.

During the year licenses for sale of milk and cream were applied for to the number of six hundred and eighty-two (682) a very considerable increase.

Licenses applied for .....	682
Licenses granted .....	519
Licenses refused .....	145
Licenses held in abeyance .....	18
Total inspections made .....	1,565

The milk and table cream supply of the city is drawn from a very wide area and entails a large amount of work in inspecting the various premises from which it comes. This is particularly the case this year because, in anticipation of the tuberculin test being applied, it has been necessary to do a lot of preliminary work in the way of having extra windows and ventilators provided. Much still remains to be done. There seems to be an almost ineradicable prejudice in this country against installing adequate light and ventilation, due no doubt to the severity of our winters and the natural desire to keep the barns as warm as possible. This is, of course, very necessary, but must take second place to sanitation and the health of the dairy stock and can be secured by better barn construction.

The matter of cleanliness of utensils which has such an important bearing on the quality of the product also demands considerable attention. Cream and milking pails call for constant supervision and the milking machine, while such a useful labor-saver, can very easily cause a lot of trouble if not given sufficient care and, as last year, has at times called for extra attention from this Department.

The acquisition of a car by this Department has enabled us to cover the work of the taking of samples from delivery wagons as we have not been able

to before. This was especially needed as the number of retailers has greatly increased. Four hundred and one (401) samples of retail milk were taken for bacterial count and three hundred and sixty-three (363) samples were examined for butter-fat content. Practically sixty per cent. (60%) of the retail milk samples gave bacteria counts under one hundred thousand; and seventy-three went under two hundred thousand. Only a few ran very high. The average butter-fat of all samples examined was 3.83 per cent.

During the year the question has been brought under discussion of having all cattle, supplying milk or table cream for the city, tuberculin tested by the Dominion Government. We expect that a very considerable part of the territory will be covered during 1922. This is quite an important step forward in our milk work.

Respectfully submitted,

H. C. GRAHAM,  
Milk Inspector.

### REPORT OF THE CITY DAIRY INSPECTOR

DR. T. H. WHITELAW,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:—I beg to submit the following report on the inspection of dairies for the year ending December 31st, 1921.

Six hundred and eighty-two (682) applications for dairy licenses were received, five hundred and sixty-seven of which come under my report as follows:

	Totals	Granted	Refused	In Abyeance
Licenses for 1 cow in city .	112	89	19	4
Local .....	310	258	44	8
Beaumont .....	3	2	1	..
Deville .....	1	1	..	..
Irma .....	1	1	..	..
Fort Saskatchewan .....	1	1	..	..
Leduc .....	7	4	3	..
Millet .....	50	37	12	1
Morinville .....	3	1	2	..
New Sarepta .....	1	1	..	..
Spruce Grove .....	2	2	..	..
Stony Plain .....	4	4	..	..
Tofield .....	21	12	9	..
Wetaskiwin .....	51	30	21	..
Totals	567	443	111	13

Two licenses were temporarily suspended on account of dirty milking machines.

During the year there was an increase of one hundred and seventy (170) applications for dairy licenses over 1920, which I dealt with. This increase being due to falling market prices of grain and other farm produce. I am of the opinion that more farmers will take up dairying in the future and not rely so greatly on grain growing.

During the year, one thousand, three hundred and thirty-two (1,332) inspections were made as against one thousand and nine (1,009) the previous year. The number of licenses refused, one hundred and eleven (111), was high as compared with twelve (12) in 1920, this being due to a more strict inspection and to several new shippers whose barns were quite unsuited to meet our dairy regulations.

Where dairymen intend building new barns, I draw for them suitable plans which fill both their needs and ours. This service appears to have been greatly appreciated by the dairymen, and several new barns have recently been built which meet our regulations in every way.

A few milk retailers have had their herds tuberculin tested during the year and in consequence report a much keener demand for their milk.

Respectfully submitted,

C. ELLINGER,  
Dairy Inspector.